

Women's International Club Newsletter



OCTOBER - 1997

September 10, 1997

Dear Member,

A special welcome to all those new members whose first General Meeting this is. I also welcome you all back from the Summer holidays and hope that you have had a good break.

Your Committee has been hard at work during the Summer in order to prepare some great programmes, which we hope that you will enjoy. Please remember your dues, without them it will be difficult to bring you the programmes that you deserve. Please see Darshan Inderjit about any outstanding payments.

The next General Meeting is on **Wednesday, October 8 at 3:00pm**. It will be held at the Residence of the Sri Lankan High Commission, 27 Kautilya Marg, Chanakyapuri. Our Hostess is Mrs. Gnana Moonesinghe. We will have a lecture by Aman Nath on the subject of his forthcoming book, tracing, through art, the Shiva myth since its origins. The talk will explain how the complex iconography of Shiva can be de-codified from objet d'art (painting, sculpture, coins and jewellery) that he will bring along from his collection. "You can't do justice to 5000 years in just 50 minutes" he said, but he will try! Aman Nath is the co-author of two books on the wall paintings of Shekhavati and on the Arts and Crafts of Rajasthan. His last book, Jaipur - The Last Destination, was chosen by Christies as among the best books in the world. In Delhi he is better known for his restoration of the Neemrana Fort-Palace and other buildings, now Neemrana Heritage Hotels.

The second half of the programme will feature classically-trained Bharata Natyam dancer and scholar, Geeta Chandran. Geeta will bring to life Aman's lecture with her brilliant evocative dances on Shiva. Please read more about Geeta's programme (in this newsletter) so you will get a better understanding of what you will be watching on October 8.

See you next month. October, this year, also brings us Dussehra and the festival of lights...Diwali. I hope these holidays brings you togetherness and happiness.

Mary Gore-Booth
President

NOTE: Please fill in the attached questionnaire, it helps us to serve you.

WIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1997-1998

Mary Gore-Booth	President	3013117, 3014123, 3013671(fax)
Shyama Gurbachan Singh	1st Vice President	332 9611
Lakshmi Chandra	2nd Vice President	6145545, 6149503(fax)
Darshan Inderjit	Treasurer	3730684, 4698877
Rupa Sahni	Hospitality	4611977, 4619553
Mako Lutyens	Membership	4649557, 4649556, 4624965(fax)
Anita Meattle	Secretary	3012289, 3012221(fax)
Virginia Hawkins	Newsletter	6149204, 6149205(fax)

CIRCLE LEADERS 1997-1998

BOOKS	Gopika Nath	6827190
	Nina Dey Gupta	6434836
	Titia Knoops	6147274
VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS	Kanta Stanchina	6113643
	Meera Rao	6887200, 6873383
	Sushma Nanda	6113091, 6872921
FOCUS	Nandita Lahiri	8360539
	Mariana White	4672119
	Monica Modak	6132836
CULTURE	Gita Devi Kapurthala	6484029
	Alexandra Tomasikova	601015, 6885340
	Anna Sturgess	6851287, 6851766(fax)
GOURMET AND GARDEN	Veena Dass	3012713, 3010128
	Sophie Devred Neat	6866147
	Amrita Mankad	6888761
CREATIVE SELF EXPRESSION	Ramindra Ajit Singh	6176507
	Prama Bhandari	6862807
	Janet Chawla	4611821
EXCURSIONS	Sheila Ghatate	3329823, 3329346
	Zakia Zaheer	3327382, 3329472
	Anthea Marsden	4675074
DANCE	Usha Venketeshwaran	2256804, 2250730
	Maya Caroli	6863936, 6969743
	Josefina Young	6141683

NOTE: Please fill in the attached questionnaire if help is needed.



Special Events - Golden Jubilee of India's Independence

"Colours of Independence" an exhibition organized by the National Gallery of Modern Art, Jaipur House, New Delhi, will be inaugurated on September 6 by Mr. Inder Kumar Gujral, Prime Minister of India. The show can be viewed by the public from **September 7 - September 28, 10:00am to 5:00pm daily** (closed on Mondays). The paintings exhibited are by a galaxy of contemporary Indian artists

"Colours of Independence" chronicles some of the post colonial issues that have influenced and shaped the creative sentiments of Indian Contemporary artists. It exposes a certain aspect of history of the land. "Colours of Independence" reflects that Freedom which means to look within, to discover within, to rekindle the memory of an older past, to create an authentic, indigenous actuality which is the sum total of one's native experiences and responses to the world.

Roobina Karode, Art Historian and Critic, has offered to take WIC Members on a special guided tour of "Colours of Independence" exhibition on **Saturday, September 20, meeting at the Gallery at 10:30am**. Please call either Shyama Gurbachan Singh or Zakia Zaheer if you would like to join the tour.

"The Enduring Image" exhibition at the National Museum in Delhi will open in mid-October. It is the largest and most ambitious event planned by the British Council in conjunction with the Department of Culture (Government of India), the National Museum of Delhi and Sir C.J. Public Hall Mumbai, to mark the fiftieth year celebrations of Indian Independence. It brings together nearly 300 treasures from the British Museum. Treasures from eight world civilizations: figurines, statuettes etc. Also major works of art from ancient Egypt, pre-Colombian America, Japan, South Asia, Medieval Europe, China, Greece and Rome. The exhibition will remain at the National Museum until December.

"Towards 2000" at the Pragati Maidan, Hall No.18, opening on **October 14**. This Hall will be turned into a dramatic area of audio-visual display, music and futuristic images. Exhibits ranging from telecommunications to finance, education to technology and an Indo-British book exhibition. You can learn to fly a plane on the virtual reality, see laser shows, enter competitions and see the latest of British fashion.

Creative Self-Expression

This month's activity keeps with the spirit of Dussehra, when the ritual burning of Ravana (i.e. negativities) takes place, as well as with the spirit of Diwali which celebrates the return of Rama, Sita and Lakshman or all that is positive. Please bring a large, (at least 12 inches by 10 inches) envelope or paper bag to make the face of Ravana, some cheap paints or crayons, a candle, and a good dose of honesty, a willingness to experiment plus a desire to release the barriers to your creative self-expression. When we finish making our Ravanas we will creatively and constructively burn them as well as symbolically toss our creative blocks into the fire. Afterwards we will celebrate the spirit of Diwali and our own creativity by lighting candles. This activity is limited to 21 people. We will meet at the home of Prama Bhandari, 8 Padmini Enclave, Hauz-Khas (tel. 686-2807) on **Tuesday, October 14, 3:00pm**

Excursions

Excursion around Delhi

Kotla Ferozeshah and Ugrasen ki Baoli (October 20)

Firoz Shah Tughluq who ruled from 1351 to 1388 was a prolific builder. His capital was called Firozabad which was the fifth city of Delhi. We have planned our October excursion to the citadel built within this city and also to an ancient stepped well credited to have been built by the Rajputs. We will meet at the entrance of the *Times of India* office building, Bahadurshah Zafar Marg (near Tilak Bridge) on **Thursday, October 23, at 10:30am sharp!**

Benares-Sarnath (November 25-29)

Through its maze of lanes and by-lanes, time seems to have lost its way in Benares. We have planned a visit to this eternal city, also known as Varanasi and Kashi. A boat ride on the Ganges, a visit to Sarnath where Buddha preached his first sermon 2500 years ago and a visit to the famous handloom units of Benares is a treat not to be missed. The tour price is Rs. 7,000 per person and this includes train fare, hotel and sightseeing. (Air fare will be Rs. 1,950 extra one way.) We will leave Delhi on Tuesday evening, **November 25** and return to Delhi on Saturday morning, **November 29**. (The last date for booking your place on this trip is October 20.)

Dance

We celebrate Diwali in a very special way in a Traditional Indian home. Come dressed for the occasion and join the core group in "Dandiya Raas" - a fun dance with sticks. This dance has been performed for time in memory of the Navratras (the days that culminate in Dussehra) invoking the blessing of the mother goddess Amba. On this occasion we combine the two celebrations, light the Dias and usher in health, wealth and happiness for all of us. We will meet at the home of Nayana Goradia, 145 Sunder Nagar (tel. 461-7859, 461-5703) on **Friday, October 24, 3:30pm.**

Visual and Performing Arts

October is the right time for planting and re-potting Bonsais therefore we would like to elaborate on this oriental art form of miniaturizing a tree. This simple statement, however, belies the hard work and patience that goes behind the caretaking and grooming of every Bonsai masterpiece. Kanta Kapoor, a master at the art of Bonsai will give us a short talk and demonstration. Kanta has been creating Bonsai for 18 years and also teaches the subject. She will tell us how to select the plant, style it, give initial as well as routine care, and how to re-pot it. In short, this is everything you've ever wanted to know about Bonsai, and you don't have to be afraid to ask! We will meet at the home of Bindu Talwar, B370 New Friends Colony (tel. 683-1242 or 691-1161) on **Tuesday, October 21 at 3:00pm.**

Books

Sandeep Singh Bedi popularly known as Bobby Bedi and producer of the film "Bandit Queen" (based on Mala Sen's book) will regale us about 'never a dull moment in the life of a film producer'. His recent production "Fire" in English has received several international awards. He also co-produced the film "Stiff Upper Lip" in 1997 starring the ever-lovable Peter Ustinov. This program is limited to 30 people and our hostess is Neena Malhotra, 26 Golf Links (tel. 469-3202) on **Monday, October 27 at 3:00pm.**

Culture

Well known art historian, Moumin Latif, who has lectured and exhibited at several fabulous museums in the United States and Europe, including the Louvre in Paris, will speak to us on "Moghul Jewellery". We will meet at the home of Fariba Thompson, Bungalow No.1, U.K. High Commission (entry from Moghul Gate opposite Shanti Path) on **Thursday, October 9 at 3:00pm.**

Gourmet

The Ashok Hotel has kindly arranged a demonstration in the "Frontier Restaurant" where they will show us how to make the very special 'kebabs' that the restaurant is famous for. The number of seats is limited to 40 so the allocation will be on a first come, first served basis. Meet at the "Frontier Restaurant", Ashok Hotel in Chanakyapuri on **Thursday, October 16 at 10:00am.**

Hospitality

Thank you so much for sending me your cards in such good time. This helps a lot and is most heartening. Please do remember to sign your names on the list provided with your hostess, since every meeting is to be signed in for. If, for some reason, you cannot attend a programme which you have accepted, please inform the hostess as soon as you can -- **at least one day** before since she has to make arrangements for seating and food. The regrets for the General Meetings may please be sent to Mako Lutyens.

SHIVA SHIVA SHIVA A Different God

October 8 General Meeting.

Residence of Mrs. Gnana Moonesinghe, Sri Lankan High Commission, 27 Kautilya Marg, Chanakyapuri at 3:00pm.

You will have already read about Aman Nath and Geeta Chandran in this month's letter from Mary Gore-Booth, however, in order to fully appreciate the second half of the Meeting we would like to explain Geeta's programme.

1. Chokkanathar Kavuthvam.
This dance features the vernacular imagery of Shiva from Tamil Nadu. The dance culls various myths of Shiva as the proto Nayakan (hero). In her dance, Geeta will weave a few of these myths of Shiva as 'Dakshinamurthi' celebrating his Satvika Rupa, Adiya Peruman, his Thandava Rupa where he danced with his right foot raised and of Chokkanathar who shocks devotees with his awe and grandeur. The Kavuthvam is a Raga Maalika in Mishrajapa Taalam.
2. Geeta will then present an iconographic demonstration of Shiva as perceived in the Sanatana in 'Bho Shambo', a composition in Raag Revathi. The poetry praises the Nirguna Rupa or the omniscient beauty of Shiva.

Focus

George Verghese, former editor of the *Indian Express* and *Hindustan Times* is an authority on media policy issues. He was one of the architects of the Prosar Bharati Act and will speak to us on the subject. We will meet at the home of Marianna White, A43 Vasant Marg, Vasant Vihar, (614-8208) on **October 17 at 3:00pm**.

Please add a one rupee stamp to the postcards for Rupa. Virginia tried to put the correct postage on the cards for September and October (the Post Office claims 25 paise is enough -- but this is not the case), so from now on we are asking you to please remember to add a one rupee stamp before mailing in your acceptances.

Resignations:

The Club bids farewell to two of its members:
Sheila Bindra and Yildiz Yagci.

All members of the WIC share with millions around the world shock and regret at the tragic and untimely death of Princess Diana. We will fondly remember her vitality, compassion and charisma. Our thoughts and sympathies are with her friends and family at this time.

Gardening Notes for October

Flowers:

The winter seedlings should be ready and can now be transplanted. For late flowering sow Aster, Antirrhinum, Calendula, Carnation, Clarkia, Dahlia, Zerbera, Hollyhock, Larkspur, Linaria, Lupins, Pansies, Poppies, Stock, Sweet Peas and Verbena. Dahlia cuttings, multi-coloured gladioli, narcissus and bulbs can also be sown.

Roses:

Rose bushes should be pruned in October (usually the second week). Do not water the plants for one week before pruning.

Pruning of roses:

Cut all dead and dry wood. Remove suckers (these should be removed regularly). Try and have an open centered rose bush and see that the slope of the cut is away from the bud. After pruning, spray the roses with a mixture of insecticides and fungicides. Remove the excess soil from around the rose bush though exposure of the roots is not necessary. Give each plant 3 to 4 kgs of well rotten farmyard manure. Hoe each bed properly and water the rose bed immediately after manuring. Roses in pots should be re-potted every second year after pruning. For termite eradication, mix 30ml. of Aldrin in 10 litres of water (this is sufficient for 10 rose plants.) Flood the bed with water, sprinkle the solution all around the bed or the pots. Water the rose beds once every week. Potted roses should be watered daily. Hoeing to be done once a fortnight and suckers to be removed as and when they appear.

Vegetables:

Plant beetroot, brinjal, cabbage, Chinese cabbage, carrot, fenugreek, lettuce, radish, turnip and potatoes, parsley and leeks.

Lawns:

To make the lawn lush and green, sprinkle ammonium sulphate on the grass and water immediately. Use Stera Meal, an organic fertilizer, once in October. This is better than Okhla Khad as there are no weed seeds.

General:

Manure hedges and evergreens.

WELCOME CLUBS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE -- May 1998

Due to our affiliation with the Welcome Clubs International, we as a Club and each of us individually are eligible to attend and participate in the international conference in Naples, Florida from May 3 to 9, 1998.

The conference organizer, Ruth Prater, has sent me a set of registration forms, information on hotel accommodation and the itinerary for the week. There is one full day of meetings for all attendees but the remainder of the week is devoted to sightseeing and experiencing the local cuisine. If you are interested in attending the conference, please see me for a form.

Each individual is responsible for her own expenses including airfare, registration (\$125), fees for tours and banquet dinners.

The deadline for submitting the reservation and confirmation form with payments in US dollars for all events is February 18, 1998. This is to be sent directly to the conference organizers.

If you have any questions, please call me after 6 p.m. at 687-2013.

Peggy Sood

Liasion for Welcome Clubs International

1997

OCTOBER

1997

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
			MAHATMA GANDHI'S BIRTHDAY			
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		GENERAL MEETING <i>Shiva Shiva Shiva</i> 3.00 p.m. Sri Lankan High Commission, 27 Kautilya Marg	CULTURE <i>Moghul Jewellery</i> 3.00 p.m. Fariba Thompson, Bungalow No I, UK High Commission (Entry from Moghul Gate Opp. Shanti Path)		D U S S E H R A	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	CREATIVE SELF EXPRESSION <i>The spirit of Dussehra</i> 3.00 p.m. Prama Bhandari, 8 Padmini Enclave, Hauz-Khas		GOURMET <i>Special Kebabs</i> 10.00 a.m. Frontier Restaurant, Ashok Hotel in Chanakyapuri	FOCUS <i>A talk on Media Policy by George Verghese</i> 3.00 p.m. Mariana White, A43 Vasant Marg		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
EXCURSIONS <i>Kotla Ferozshah and Ugrasen ki Baoli</i> 10.30 a.m. Entrance of Times of India Office Building, Bahadurshah Zafar Marg (near Tilak Bridge)	PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS <i>The art of Bonsai</i> 3.00 p.m. Bindu Talwar, B370 New Friends Colony			DANCE <i>Dandiya Raas</i> 3.30 p.m. Nayana Goradia, 145 Sunder Nagar		
27	28	29	30	31		
BOOKS <i>"Never a dull moment in the life of a film producer"</i> By Bobby Bedi 3.00 p.m. Neena Malhotra, 26 Golf Links			DIWALI			

PLEASE DO NOT SIGN THIS QUESTIONNAIRE UNLESS YOU WANT TO. PLEASE
COMPLETE IT AT THE SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING OR POST TODAY TO :
MRS MAKO LUTYENS, 88 SUNDAR NAGAR 110003. THANK YOU

MEMBERS QUESTIONNAIRE - WOMENS' INTERNATIONAL CLUB - DELHI 1997
(PLEASE TICK THE OPTION YOU PREFER - YOUR VIEWS COUNT) (Y) = YES (N) = NO

1. CHANGE OF TIME :

We would like to give all members a chance to be able to participate.

Would you mind if General meetings* were held in the

MORNINGS - 11AM (Y) (N)

AFTERNOONS - 4PM (Y) (N)

STAY AS THEY ARE - 3PM (Y) (N)

ALTERNATE BETWEEN MORNING OR AFTERNOON (Y) (N)

(* Sometimes timing will depend on speaker's convenience anyway)

2. (a) WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT THE CLUB ?

- (i) Social activities
- (ii) Circle activities
- (iii) lectures / demonstrations

(b) DO YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE THE CLUB ?

.....
.....

3. WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE MORE INVOLVED IN :

- (i) Hosting (Y) (N)
- (ii) Committee work (Y) (N)
- (iii) Catering (Y) (N)
- (iv) Special events (Y) (N)
- (v) Any other aspect

.....

The club counts on your support. Please let a member of the committee know if you can help.
Members participation helps to keep our costs down for the membership as a whole.

4. MEMBERSHIP :

Can you help us find a solution? Any suggestions gratefully received. Please write to Prama Bhandari
or to a member of your Committee. All positive and constructive ideas will be welcomed.